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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

STROUP *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/050,907

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: Apparatus and Methods for Separating
Liquids From Solids

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: Menon

Atty. Docket: 02514.0007.NPUS01

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 2, 2004, Applicants submit the following Reply.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 02514.0007.NPUS01.